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At Mr Midgley's Sale by Saunders Feb. 1818 (389 in cat.) it was bd for Mr Strettell by Lepard for £4.11.0. and at Mr Strettell's by Evans Feb. 1820. (692 in cat.) for Mr Perry at 16.4.6.
This little poem was reprinted by H. Hills in 8vo 1710 – but without the preliminary matter.

THE HVSBAND.

A POEME expreſſed In a Compleat Man.

Loripedem rectus derideat, Æthiopem albus: Iuv: ſat: pri:

LONDON
Printed for *Lawrence Liſle*, dwelling at the Tygres head in Pauls Church-yard. 16 4.

TO HIS TRVLY HONORED Friend, M. *Anth: Croftes.*

WHEN I giue you this, the worlde may thinke I vnderſtand my ſelfe, and not the worldes meaning; which firſt writes, then intends; or at leaſt intends more then it can write to an innocent purpoſe.

I therefore onely would expreſſe my writing to the world, to laugh at their Deſcant; my intention to you, to diſtinguiſh your insight. You may gather my remote ſtudie from *Oppoſition*, by a ſmall beliefe, and I perſwade my ſelfe you doe believe it: If the *world* alſo will apprehend *this*, it may be ſatisfied, but looke for no ſpeciall *Certificat*: I challenge the name of *Patron* from you; You are within the liſts of my better knowledge.

The world challenges to be an *Expoſitor* from

mee; for it will be within my divulgd mistery: your *Tuition* shall exclude no sencible Reader to protect their good meaning; But my gift shall exclude you from protection of any thing iniuriously wretted, if credit cannot absolue the meaning. Your vse and absolute assurance of this, shall be my chiefest eminence. *Valete.*

Iune. 29. 1614.

AN EPISTLE TO the Reader.

AND yet (Reader) I *must ſay ſomething to thee, though againſt my will: For the Printer admoniſhes with much* caution, *& a conditionall* if, – *that ieaſts and noted Laughter will baniſh mee: (in caſe the Poeme ſhould not be* admirable, *now it is* obſcure) *from places which I neuer hope to be guilty of, Publicke invitations, and all Ordinaryes: Thinke not therefore, that I haue laboured much to be thus miſticall, or that Nature affoords me no fauor, to expreſſe my ſelfe without confuſion. For then you wrong me moſt, before I wrong my ſelfe. Neither condemne me of imitation, (though indeed the worke precedent, and worke-maſter, were both alike excellent:) For I without my ſelfe, am not my ſelfe; My owne fewell therfore warmes my cloſet, though I kindle ſtuffe combuſtible with a borrowed Coale: Nor canſt thou burthen mee with much Cenſure, beſides* deriuation, *and* obſcutitie; *which (if you will not ſcorne to bee inſtructed) is nothing but the Worlds*

compaſſe in a little Mappe, or a large volume in few Letters.

When therefore thou wouldſt find (the thing thou wiſheſt) Senſe, *if thy Eye-ſight be not ſufficient, I will confeſſe thou ſearcheſt for a Friend, among the crowded multitude; if otherwiſe, it be patient and ſtudious, you may beholde a* Hieroglyphicke, *and the Author no* Egyptian. *Farewell.*

To the worthy Author on the Husband.

IT fits not onely him that makes a Booke,
To see his worke be good; but that he looke
Who are his Test, and what their iudgement is:
Least a false praise do make theyr dotage his.
I do not feele that euer yet I had
The art of vttring wares, if they were bad;
Or skill of making matches in my life:
And therefore I commend vnto the *Wife*,
That went before, a *Husband*. Shee, Ile sweare,
Was worthy of a Good one; And this, here,
I know for such, as (if my word will waigh)
Shee need not blush vpon the *Marriage-Day*.

Ben: Ionson:

To

To his worthily deſeruing Friend, the Author.

I Dare not now, nor liſt I to compare,
The *Husband* with the *Wife*; yet iuſtly might
Say, that the *Sunne* rules in a higher Spheare,
Then doth the *Moone*, and giues a greater light.
Let iudgement cenſure, for my Friend: I'le ſay,
Shee guilds the *Night*, but *Hee* adorn's the *Day*.

Another.

TO raiſe our Fortunes by a Noble Wife,
Speaks good diſcretion; if true Honour ſits
In Vertues lappe, and that contracted liſe
Æquality of gifts, or State admits.
Euen ſuch a *Wife*, thy *Husband Muſe* doth wed;
Nobly deſcended, and by vertues grac't,
Eeuen ſuch a *Husband*, that wiue's Nuptiall bed,
Claimes by deſerts. So heere ſhee is embrac't.
Liue (æquall Spouſes) and let future dayes
Admire, your Of-ſprings true deſerued prayſe.

I. C.

To my much beloued
and deare Friend.

THis new appearance of two heauenly ſtarres
Which came ſo vnexpected, will I feare
Make *Engliſh Verſe* obſcure: but wiſely barres
Almanack-men (who ſo exactly reare
Knowledge aboue the Clowds) from dignitie
Of *Poeſie* rapture, and their owne *Preſage*;
Whil'ſt I aſſume thus much fœlicitie,
To challenge them, 'bout thy ingenious age:
And will proteſt (let them abſurdly *laugh*)
They cannot reach it with theyr *Iacobs-ſtaff*.

Ra: Wym:

To his ingenious and iudging Friend the Author.

THy *Husband* makes me halfe beginne to thinke,
That Marriage wil be more then fleſh or blood:
Men meerly brutiſh I ſuppoſe will ſhrinke
From *almoſt* to be *altogether* good
In due *Election:* If the world be vext
With ſuch conciſe, conceited miſtery,
Be it ſufficient for thy deeper Text
To be Expounded by Divinity:
I dare not bragge, I vnderſtand *thy all,*
(Each hath conceits, which he *his owne* doth call:)
Yet could I well protect thy meaning when
The Reader laughes, if likes, could ſay *Amen.*

Io: Calue:

Ex inter: Temp:

To my much-louing Friend.

A Matchles *Husband*, and a matchles *Wife*,
Now matched are, to leade a matchles life:
This wife a widdow was, who loſt her mate,
And did in mourning-*weedes*, aſſume her ſtate.
(Widdow) now lay thy mourning-*weedes* aſide,
(Husband) ſhake hands, and kiſſe thy equall *Bride*;
The beſt (I know) wiſh worth no ſadde *anoy*;
Whilſt I (as they,) do bid, *God giue you ioy.*

A: H:

Ex Temp: Med:

To my welbeloued Friend, *the Author.*

THough *Loue* & *Worth* before me brightly shines,
Loue to thy *Selfe*, *worth* to thy *Booke* is due:
Yet neyther *thou*, nor these thy *worthy* Lines,
Shall need my praise; thy praises will ensue.
For if not Husbands, Wiues will raise thy *Name*,
And crowne thy *Husband* with all-proper *Fame*.

Thy *learned Wit*, conceal'd in *shadowes* darke,
If men doe well *conceaue*, they will not *shrinke*
To passe the *Clowdes*; hoping to get the *marke*,
Which hauing once attain'd, will (as I thinke)
Make *Husbands* fit for *Wiues*: excelling farre
Those *Husbands*, whose *bad-wiues*, *good-Husbands* (marre.

Philonus: *Ex Gray*: *Hospi*:

In Authorem, Roberti Vescij;
Eulogium.

CArmina docta legi, tua docta digna Poeta:
Carmina Nasone, *aut digna* Marone legi.
Namque tuis Musæ sunt, fusæ Versibus omnes:
Sanguis vt in venis, fusus vbiq; fluit.
Te decor auratis ambit te gloria pennis:
Te Charites *stipant* Pallas, Apollo, Venus.
Fama *sonat laudes, volitans pennata per Orbem:*
Difflat, & aurata nunc tua Tuba *metra.*

Tu meritò talis sis- { *Culta coniuge dignus;* / *Culto digna Marito.*
Vos ni concordes / *Vos ni coniuncti* } *practica Musa iacet.*
Deprecor hoc vnum per iura sacerrima Lecti,
Vt { *tua,* / *mea* } *sit Thalamo sic sociata.* { *tuo.* / *meo.*

R. V.

To the worthy Author.

SO hast thou to that *All-accomplisht Wife*,
As rare a *Husband*, fitted to the *life*:
Iust such a match, as *hee* doth now ex-sist
Was *Manes first-Marriage*, whē, his *GOD* was *Priest*.

M: Freeman.

The Author to his præfix'd Approuers.

LEt nothing in this volume be vnknowne
To you; you all haue made this work your own
By *Approbation*; which implyes *Defence*,
If one word be defectiue in due sense.

THE ARGV-
MENT OF ALL.

First, the generality of Mans nature illustrated in Adam: *then followes the definitiue vse of* Husband: *the naked innocence of true Election.*

Election is diuided into Loue and Dotage; The last is reiected: the property of the first appeares (by the Negatiue) *to be* Voluntarie *and* Speciall: *And a third choyce (distinguisht from both the first) consisting of Humor, is excluded: & the Ages distinguisht.*

Husband *deriues it selfe from two sorts of men:* Batchellors, *and* Widdowers: *The* first, *be absolutely preferred; And among the* last, *such as neuer lued entirely before, rather then such as were truly*

The Argument.

deuoted. And among those of this last kinde, the quantitie of Time is respected.

All these implie a maestie, (if a compleat Man,) which hath Comelynes *and* Conmaund; *Both which, conuert Effeminate beautie into* Decencie, *not* Deformity: *with his iudgement vpon the* Externalls: *then how farre* Fame *doth extend: The* worst Husband *makes the* best *apparant, by contrariety. After which, things following Mariage, he enlightened; the most materiall distinguished.*

The Prerogatiue of Arte *and* Nature, (*as Concomitants*) *is discussed: the effects of Nature, (and the nice attendance it owes vnto Loue) succeede; with a comparison betwixt the parties.*

His Character of appearances (with the vacancy of death) concludes her *absolute assurance.*

Life

The Husband.

LIFE was inſpir'd, the firſt life was diuine,
Then life diuided was: the number *two*
Made both vnequall: but the chiefeſt ſigne
Of dutie is to *thinke* and then to *doe*:
Both which had purchas'd a perpetuall life,
If *Adam* had beene equall with his wife.

For then inferior woman had not ſtroue
To tempt her *Monarch:* who did thoughtles yeeld,
Seeing he had none *equall* nor aboue,
But his Creator, in the ſpacious field:
Thinking for any there was then no roome,
But for himſelfe, *himſelfe* to ouercome.

So did one weaker, and one farre below,
Subuert the follie of mans poore conceit:
For he did onely *good* and *euill* know,
By prospect, not by burthen or by weight:
Thus though no liuing creature well could reach
His *worth*, yet woman could his *will* impeach.

And hence it comes that all inferior formes,
Traduce the worthy ſhape which is aboue :
Our *Ocean* is diſtracted, by the *ſtormes*
Inuiſible : and *lucke* forſakes true *loue* :
Thus *Adam* though he knew the *guilt* of ſinne,
Yet knew he not the *curſe* which was within.

So

So *Adams* dignity was *ouermatch'd*
Not *match'd*: And ſo conſpiraſies deſtroy
The *cauſe* remote; but they away are ſnatch'd
Ere with ſucceſſe they can the *ſame* enioy:
For we deceiue our memories indeed,
When we *depriue*, we ſtill hope to *ſucceed*.

Nor *Adams Will* may ſimply be excus'd,
For hee had power to reſtraine his *Will:*
Yet fleſh ſo farre his heauenly part abus'd,
To ſhew he could not be exempt from ill:
And wee haue taken the ſame *Preſident*,
That we might know by our *Experiment*.

From *Adam* we deriue infirmitie,
And somewhat more : he neuer knew the name
Of *Childe* but *Youthfull*, for minority
Of doubtfull practise purchas'd all his blame:
But (the compleat man which in figure lyes,
Being his owne) hee might haue *preiudize*.

For if we sleepe away the name of *Childe*,
As *Adam* did; and when we first awake,
Be at full age, or may be truly stil'd
As perfit men by knowledge: this doth make
No full disproofe: for we doe onely gesse
Vntill we trie bad *lucke* or *happines*.

Golde I may *know*, yet neuer know the weight:
I may discerne the dusky colour *darke*,
In some deepe Vaule; but neuer know the height,
Till I descend: I heare *Tunes*, not the *Larke*,
Till I approach: So *Adam* he did see
The *colour* onely, not the *quantitie*.

Golde *Adam*

Adam was *first* a man, but was *alone*,
His mariage was a thing of conſequence,
And better *husband* then himſelfe was *none*,
Becauſe the *firſt*: All acts were innocence
Except the firſt, which being ſet aſide,
Adam (to vs) might ſoone be ſtellifide.

The Husband.

Husband, with *Adam* did begin to make
Man more *supreme*, then nature could *deuiſe*
Nature (by approbation) doth *awake*
Fancy; but mariage makes our fancy *wiſe*:
For if *it* thriue, we ſtill ſeeke to *preſerue*,
If *it* thriues ill, we ſeeke how to *deſerue*.

Election

The Husband.

Election is an *Optycke* of the ſoule,
Which chuſeth men farre off, among the *Crowde*,
Yes whilſt *vnknowne*: wee cannot *chaſe* controule,
Although we doe obſcure *it*, with a *cloud*:
For Modeſty may *bluſh*, but neuer can
Be able to reſiſt *her* choſen man.

Both

Both Sexes haue their priuiledge alike
To *chuſe*: but Woman hath prerogatiue:
Shee may *forbeare*, *deny*, and neuer *ſtrike*
Till the iuſt *houre*, but man doth ſtill reuiue
Each minutes Fancie: and at firſt agree
To know by *Diſtance*, what the *houre* will bee.

The Husband.

All *our* Election is *conditionall*,
But dotage is Election *absolute* :
The end of both *fruition* : But withall
The *first* is past when wee enioy the fruite:
The second neuer doth *enough* enioy,
Vntill we do the *obiect* cleane destroy.

Shee

Dotage is ſeruile, doth neglect, abuſe,
And (like the Spaniel) doth become more fond;
A doating *Husband* can haue no excuſe,
But the conſuming part of wedlocks bond:
For 'tis attended euer with one paine,
To *leue*, yet nothing to *receiue* againe.

The Husband.

Shee neuer was well *match'd* that choſe a *Man*
By commendations of anothers toung:
Loue makes the *Choyſe:* and *Innocence* the Swan
May neuer with aduerſity be ſtung.
If *hee* miſcarry, woman doth lament
The *cauſe:* not of her *choſen* loue repent.

But friends *Friend* is a more deceitfull path
Then *Dotage* for a woman to conceaue:
Loue neither *Thinks* nor *thoughts* but *Freedome* hath,
And *Loue* to *praises* may her *will* bereaue,
Not her *Affection:* Dotage sees her owne:
But obiects onely *prais'd*, are seldome knowne.

The Husband.

Loue honors *beſt* and *worſt*, both *Rich* and *poore*,
Tawny-Complection, *Fayre*, and *Swarth*, and *Blacke*:
With æquall *Vertue*: Fancie is the *dore*,
Loue the receiuer: *True-loue* cannot lacke.
The *ſimple End*, if but enioy it can,
Nor doth it wiſh, to loue a *better man*.

Nor

Nor muſt a *Woman*, therefore giue conſent
To take *this* man, becauſe *ſhee* cannot call
Another, *Husband*: her affection's bent
With being *Sunne-burnt*; and the very *All*
Of her intention is a crooked peece,
And onely hangs about the *Fleſh* or *Fleece*.

The Husband.

Humor is Natures owne *Interpreter*,
And often doth againſt *his* will expreſſe,
Caution enough to ſome: who can inferre
Iudgement, by ſignes of his *vnſteadineſſe*.
Safe is not *ſudden*, nor is *violent*,
Degrees make perfect *Loue*, not our *intent*.

With

With Humors *Melancholy* hath a place,
And *is*, (if graceſull) a producing Art:
But *that* which you diſcouer by the *Face*,
Makes *diſcontent* appeare: the *middle* part
Of *this* encliner to *Choller* though he purge,
It comes *againe*: and *Diſcontent* doth vrge.

Yet *Spleene* is needfull, and doth *relish* giue
To thy ...t *Credit*, *Diligence*, and *Mirth*:
Choller consumes *all*: and *alone* doth liue;
True *Spleene* implyes a *Sence*, aboue clay and earth:
Choller excludes mirth; *Spleene*, *submits*, *admits*,
The title *Husband*, in his fore-head sits.

Youth ſaith hee *loues*, and he may get beliefe,
If you perſwaded be, hee loues no more:
Youth hath the quicker *ſpirit*, but in *briefe*,
Full man hath *Futures*, ſaw what went before.
And ſearches rather to *apply*, then *learne*,
For elſe *Religion* were a thing externe.

Olde men do marry firſt, then they *would loue,*
If they *quickned* vp with *Flattery:*
Elſe they eſt-ſoones more *troubleſome* do proue,
And will *conſtr-une* a formall amitie.
Like children they auoyde the *darke:* and ſtay
Neere freſh-warme *Life,* that *death* might looſe his (way.

Iealous

Iealous they are, not wrongd with *Iealousie*,
For *he extends* no further then *himselfe*:
Nor doth he more esteeme the *diguise*
Or *losse*, then carnall *Beauty*: Muckish Pelfe
He honors *much*: He is by *life* implor'd,
Onely to loue *what* cannot be *reserv'd*.

The Husband.

A Batchelor is to be *doubted* more
Then Widdower, not to be *feard* ſo much:
Doubts be of that which neuer was before,
Feare of what hath bene, leaſt it ſhould be ſuch:
In miſchiefe: But where firſt loue firmely ſtood,
Then feare the ſecond cannot be ſo good.

Although

Althogh you doubt of *such* as neuer knew
The force of Wedlocke, yet conceiue some hope:
For though (vnmarryed) *such* doe proue vntrue,
Husband, may change *their* most lasciuious scope.
A Wife addes ballance: makes him still relye
Much vpon *her*, much on *posteriue*.

But

But Widdowers, if they did *firſt* abuſe
Wedlocke: the *ſequele* you may iuſtly feare
By *inſtance:* if they did directly chuſe
And loue the firſt; they will forgetles beare
That loue till death: ſo pretious oyntments leaue
An *Odour*, though the *ſubſtance* you bereaue.

When

When therefore ſuch a *man* thou doeſt behold
With *Reaſons* eye ; ſurvey the body *laſt:*
Chuſe where his loue was rather *young*, then *old*,
With chiefe relation to his Marriage paſt.
Loue him who truely did not loue before,
Rather then *ſuch* a *one*, who lou'd *no more*.

Male doth not make the *Man*, but *maiestie*,
That knowes no more of *Comely* then *command*:
If *either* doe exceede; his dignitie
Becomes effeminate; or doth *withstand*
The pleasing humor of smooth-brested loue,
And comes *too* nigh, or doth *too* farre *remoue*.

Deeme

Decent, with him is fairely *beautifull*,
And if his well-grac't carriage can expreſſe
A valiant *beauty*, to abhorre the *gull:*
To make his *minde*, not ſtrength the happineſſe
Of *ſhames* encounter, yet *include* his ſtrength,
His cleere diſtinction hath a *Husbands* length.

Deformity of Limbs *Inferior*,
Is no *essentiall* part of womens *hate*:
The *Smile*, *Voyce*, *Countenance*, be superior,
And doe expresse *enough*, or to *abate*,
Or *multiplie* the sparkes of womens *love*,
But things *indifferent* cannot purchase loue.

The *Gloſſe* and *varniſh* of a Husbands choyce,
Be *Cloathes*, and good *behauiour*: they *attract*
Only, or elſe *confirme*: A ſiluer voyce
Meeting theſe *vn-foreſtall'd*, doth well enact
The Faces admiration; and *Elect*
That (then which) nothing can be more *ſelect*.

Authority is a commanding *ſtile*,
And doth impart ſmall motiues to *Conſent*,
Except the match: if perſonage be vile,
Then ſhe reſpects not *him*, but *her* extent.
If hee, or any loue, without loues skill,
It makes a Wife vnchaſt againſt her will.

Let his profeſſion be the *worlds*, not *thine*,
So, be it *ſhamefull*, it offends not thee;
Be it ingenious, it will *combine*
Thy vow'd *affection:* things indifferent bee.
Which do depend vpon ſome *principall*,
Take onely *that*, and you enioy *them* all.

Nor may the *loue* that *you* beſtow on them,
Giue the due honor vnto *him you* chuſe:
But if you make *his* Maieſty the ſtemme
Of your conceit, Loue nothing will refuſe:
For *life* and *motion* follow perfect *health*,
As loue attracts the complement of wealth.

Take

Take what *he hath*, and leaue what *he hath* not,
To the perfection of a better age:
Things vn-*exiſtent* are by *loue* begot;
It doth with *Futures* preſent need aſſwage.
If you ſee *adiunEts*, you propound a limb,
But doe include *all*, by propounding him.

His *Beard is* but an outward complement,
And yet bewrayes he hath had time to learn: (ſpent)
Which well may ſerue (though ſome hath beene miſ-
To make a *Husband*; *Fame* the vpper-Quearne
Which grindes him, will diſcouer what *hee* is,
Contempt of fame may make him proue amiſſe.

Such

Such Fame is *Publicke*, and the circumſtance
Of *it*, incourages a happy ende;
Contempt will purchaſe no *Deliuerance*,
Nor take due motiues : if hee doe commend.
Fame with an affectation hee is proud,
If he contemnes, he cannot be allowd.

Such

Fame

Fame is our *Hackney*, not the iourneys end,
He runs together, when we *moue* our ſelues
Goes backward, if the *Ryder* him offend,
And with inceſſant ſpeedines he delues
The graue of *goods* Obliuion: much *truſt*
In Fame deceiues, too little, makes men *ruſt*.

Take therefore ſuch a man that hath beſtridde,
The lacke of *Fame*, where he is beſt beknowne:
Stipendious *voyces* euer will out-bidde
The common *Rumor*, which report is growne
A tryall now, t'approue *good*, and condemne,
For ſinnes *it* calles ſinnes, though it nouriſh them.

Bad fame is *Blacke-Complection* to the Eye,
And giues a bitter *taſte* to outward *forme:*
A comely *Villaine* pittied wee eſpye,
Seldome by true *loue*, reſcued from the ſtorme,
For when ſhe takes the Medcine with the weede,
That woman onely, *loues* a *man indeede.*

But

But your proteſting ſuiter runnes too faſt,
He loues the name of *Husband*, not the *Wife:*
The toung bewrayes the iudgement *ouer-paſt*,
He doth exclude *Neceſſitie* in ſtrife:
And like (the *Turkiſh* Captaines) doth propound
Peace, where the act of *Conqueſt* doth abound.

One too *Officious*, or too *Eloquent*,
The tenor of his meaning doth betray:
And rather practise a new element,
Of *shadow* then affection: this delay
Confounds: proues *subtle*, or imply
The vaine *indulgence* of Idolatry.

The Husband.

The true beſt *Husband* neuer doth diuide
Affection into *Ragges:* but holdes *entire:*
To *Wife* his loue is *one:* Nor is *deuide,*
Nor lookes aboue *himſelfe:* the noble hire
Of that alone deſerues an *equall* wife,
For all his Age is but *anothers* life.

The Husband.

The Womans byrth, with Beauty being comp.w'd,
Is nothing to the Man. his pedigree
Wheighed with bad Fame: is but to be enſnar'd
Betwixt *two* miſchiefes: Honour makes vp *three.*
Remoue that *Fame*, they both are excel'ent,
Adde, and *it* makes the *all* more eminent.

Wealth

Wealth *she* may take, but cannot *chuſe* the wealth
If ſhe loues well: Nor may *she* wealth deſpiſe,
Although ſhe hath *enough*: the outward *ſtealth*
Of *fame* and *credit* on expences lyes,
With many more: wealth is *medicinall*
To the true *maiſter* and *officiall*.

Good nature is with men much better farre,
Then *is* the ſame with women : or then *are*
Is in *themſelues* : *balme* doth reduce a *ſcarre*,
Poyſon *applied*, his gall *it* doth impart :
The medicine operates, and not the wound,
Woman by mans good nature ſtill is *bound*.

But man more *head-ſtrong* cannot *ſo* exchange
His *nature*, though his *art* perhaps he may:
Nature is long acquainted: *art* is ſtrange
Vntill by labour it prouokes a way:
Loue lends through liberality: and ioy
Borrowes *them* both, but cannot both deſtroy.

The Husband.

To chuſe a man by *Art* is *friuolous*,
For *you* muſt *loue* his nature, not his art;
He cannot *Art* beſtow in *loue*, and *thus*,
You challenge nature as the chiefeſt part;
Which doth *retaine* it ſelfe, yet *render all*,
The *noble* part of *loue* is *naturall*.

Art is too *ſubtle* : nature is too *plaine*;
Nature comes *bare-fac't*, *art* is double *maſkt* :
Loue walkes betweene ; reiects all meere diſdaine,
And doth diſcouer what he is vnaskt :
If *he miſcarry*, *he* doth rather *know*
His debt *vnpaid*, then goe about to *owe*.

The Husband.

The *father* not the *husband* loues the child,
The *husband* not the *father* loues the wife:
Familiar with himselfe is nothing vild
His wife's *himselfe* entire: No veniall ſtriſe
Vnmixes: but their *one* ſocietie
Holds a proportion no proprietie.

They

They loue their children as the ſoule of both,
The ſoule's *affections* craue vnequall rate:
Some follow *indiſcretion*, *ſhame*, and *ſloth*,
Thoſe we reclaime *firſt*; then we baniſh hate;
Which leaues the *organ* and reſiſts the *vice*,
Bad children *once*; *good* be reſpected twiſe.

Loue ſtill ſurniues, and quickens in the *wife*,
The wife inherites all the husbands *loue*:
As he receiues of *her*: the chiefeſt gloſſe
Of that *inheritance*, is to approue
The *care* as welcome; not vniuſtly view
The *cauſe* ſo farre as to ingender

With

With women *things indifferent*, which draw
A diſproportion to their *paſſiue* ſexe,
May (by the iuſtice of our common law)
Much dignity to ciuill man annexe:
And we may ſafer about him conclude,
That want of learning makes the husband rude:

Safer then ſay *ſhe* hath a pregnant wit,
And therefore will become a *noble* wife:
For ſuch *humility* will *ſcarce* ſubmit
To his directions: *he* ſhould vſe the knife
She make it more *acute: ſhe* may conteſt,
He only know her ſcope, and ſo *digeſt:*

But

But whilſt you doe ſuruey the bodies *grace*,
You ſee reflection of the thoughts within:
Which (as reflection) in you make a place
For proper obiects quickly will begin
To giue their ventage: euery man doth pleaſe
Some eye (though brutiſh) if he hides diſeaſe.

That makes him neerer death; whilſt reaſons eye
Lookes to the image, which may well ſuruiue;
And ſhew a comfort in the company
Of *equall* worth, whilſt *ſt* remaines aliue?
For *Hymens* torch is lighted: and the wife
Doth wholy *thinke* vpon a bleſſed *life*.

Which

Which with *good husbands* is perpetu'all ſpring
It hath no yearely ſeaſons; but retaines
Still the ſame eſſence; yet inſatiate brings
All vnto her; that *all* with him remaines:
For loue (a pretious Alchimy) if true;
Conuerts, being ready to *conuert* anew.

The Husband.

This husband ſometimes may haue leaue to frowne,
He doth infuſe a *reliſh* to his ioy;
Which brings the fulſome pleaſure ſweetly downe,
But neuer doth affections *force* deſtroy:
For loue (though it aſſume new qualitie)
Keepes (if not adds vnto) old quantitie.

He

The Husband.

He rather loues, not leaſt *he* ſhould *offend*,
So much, as to *preſerue* his *amity*:
For *who* is *dutifull*, or doth *amend*
Only to *pleaſe*, implyes *ſeruility*.
Rather I'le be diuorc'd, and ſo forbeare
To loue at all, then loue a wife with feare.

He Yet

Yet (*Being chiefe*) I wiſely would contriue,
Not to oppreſſe her patience with *griefe*:
That moſt concernes *me*; but I would depriue
Her of her *owne*; by comforted reliefe.
I in no *diſcontent* will partner make
My wife; *ſhe* only ſhould in *ioy* partake.

Yet to abridge *her* of domeſticke care,
Is to become indulgent without *cauſe:*
Wiues not deſiring *rule* be very rare;
That in *her houſhold*, profitably drawes,
The current of *her* blood another way;
And makes *her* ſee the *morrow*, in *this day*.

So ſhall *he haue*, and not *her* aide *implore*;
And ſo permits no empire to take place:
A *wife* ſhould be a *miſtreſſe* now no more;
But the *vice-gerent* to her husbands grace.
So whilſt *he* limits care that may oppreſſe,
Her care becomes a *priuate* happines.

The Husband.

My husband faintly lookes vpon diſeaſe,
With a lamenting *feare* to be bereſt,
Of *that*, which (aboue *fleſh*) did nature pleaſe;
Of *that*, whoſe deere ſocietie is leſt
Only in thought: if one forſake liſes fire,
Husband and wife (I ſay) do both expire.

Now as for *death* which strangely doth affright,
The *ioyes* of mariage, when *they* fall perforce;
True loue, *it*, neuer can well *dis-vnite*,
Though loue protested makes a *full diuorce*.
The *first* a patterne keepes (though death destroy
Our *Carcasse*) of the *soule* and heauenly ioy.

So

So be *he pray'd*, true *reliſht*. and adornd
With all felicitie; if you perſwade
Loue to accept him, take the *reſt vn-ſcornd*
But not *vnconſtrued*: Our inuentions made
Fortunes externall purchaſe reuerence,
But *loue* (*diuine*) was made of *innocence*.

Explicit.

The Authors Catastrophe.

Soule, thy aſpiring part which doth conuerſe
With more then outward *man*, may thus behold
His hidden fabricke; and diuinely peirce
Into records of truth, which lay enrould
So long before creation; to expreſſe
The heightned patterne of true holines.

Looke

Looke vpwards then, to *that* eternall *cause*,
Which by a potent miracle, hath reard,
Man to the orbe of dignitie; by *lawes*
Of disquisition; rather to be *fear'd*
Then *followed* as the *Architect* of man;
Who measures immence bodyes by a span.

For when *some* heads, among the crowded heape,
Deriue a more peculiar extent
Of knowledge, then the *reſt*; who ſeldome reape
More, then tradition, or experiment;
Then *that* ſupreme *all-mouer* I may ſee,
Which moues mixt earth & wiſdome by degree.

Thus

Thus be allaied then (my commanding ſoule)
Through meditation of thy earthly part:
Conuerſe with fleſh, but euer doe *contraule*
And not *partake* with *body*; ſo the *hart*
Will tremble in delight of earthly *good*,
When *it* remembers fleſh, and mortall blood.

Both which with purblind *men* so much preuaile,
As, though my labour hath exactly writ
A husbands forme; yet will *they* rather raile
Because (I thinke) vnable or vnfit
To practise all, then all to vnderstand;
So my impression will but touch the sand.

As for the *woman*, whom I neuer knew,
Beyond *her* glosse, and *my* externall sight:
I dare not counsell, to create anew
Her often enuious and oft stubborne spright:
Yet if she only lookes vpon the leaues,
Her glasse and painting not so soone deceaues.

Nor hath my purpoſe beene to challenge hence
The deere opinion of that female ſexe:
By making them priuie to my pretence
As if I could not their ambitions vexe:
For though I thus deſcribe, yet I infer,
None may *loue* me, except I firſt loue her.

So let me ſingle or vn-ſhipwrackt ſtand,
To view the tempeſt-ſtriken mariner:
Upon a *rocke*, ſafer then ſea, or land,
To giue good warning; while the **Fates** interre
My humbled carcaſſe on the muddy ſhore,
To be a modele of what went before.

FINIS.

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